

**Amendments to the Claims:**

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

**Listing of Claims:**

1-14. (Canceled)

15. (Currently Amended) An optical recording medium ~~in accordance with Claim 1 which comprises~~ comprising two or more recording layers spaced apart from each other and dielectric layers each formed in ~~the~~ a vicinity of one of the recording layers, at least one of the said dielectric layers that is formed in ~~the~~ a vicinity of one of the recording layers that is closest to a light incidence plane containing an oxide as a primary component and nitrogen as an additive.

16. (Currently Amended) An optical recording medium in accordance with Claim 15, wherein the at least one dielectric layer contains an oxide selected from a group consisting of Ta<sub>2</sub>O<sub>5</sub> and TiO<sub>2</sub> as a primary component.

17. (Original) An optical recording medium in accordance with Claim 15, wherein each of the recording layers includes a first recording film containing an element selected from a group consisting of Si, Ge, Sn, Mg, C, Al, Zn, In, Cu, Ti and Bi as a primary component and a second recording film containing an element selected from a group consisting of Cu, Al, Zn and Ag and different from the element contained as a primary component in the first recording film as a primary component.

18. (Original) An optical recording medium in accordance with Claim 16, wherein each of the recording layers includes a first recording film containing an element selected from a group consisting of Si, Ge, Sn, Mg, C, Al, Zn, In, Cu, Ti and Bi as a primary

component and a second recording film containing an element selected from a group consisting of Cu, Al, Zn and Ag and different from the element contained as a primary component in the first recording film as a primary component.

19-20. (Cancelled)

21. (New) An optical recording medium in accordance with Claim 15, wherein the two or more recording layers are constituted so that data can be recorded therein by a laser beam having a wavelength of 380 nm to 450 nm.

22. (New) An optical recording medium in accordance with Claim 16, wherein the two or more recording layers are constituted so that data can be recorded therein by a laser beam having a wavelength of 380 nm to 450 nm.

23. (New) An optical recording medium in accordance with Claim 17, wherein the second recording film is formed so as to be in contact with the first recording film.

24. (New) An optical recording medium in accordance with Claim 18, wherein the second recording film is formed so as to be in contact with the first recording film.

25. (New) An optical recording medium in accordance with Claim 17, wherein the first recording film contains an element selected from a group consisting of Si, Ge and Sn as a primary component.

26. (New) An optical recording medium in accordance with Claim 18, wherein the first recording film contains an element selected from a group consisting of Si, Ge and Sn as a primary component.

27. (New) An optical recording medium in accordance with Claim 17, wherein the second recording film contains Cu as a primary component.

28. (New) An optical recording medium in accordance with Claim 18, wherein the second recording film contains Cu as a primary component.

29. (New) An optical recording medium in accordance with Claim 17, wherein the second recording film is added with an element selected from the group consisting of Cu, Al, Zn, Ag, Mg, Sn, Au, Ti and Pd and different from the element contained in the first recording film as a primary component.

30. (New) An optical recording medium in accordance with Claim 18, wherein the second recording film is added with an element selected from the group consisting of Cu, Al, Zn, Ag, Mg, Sn, Au, Ti and Pd and different from the element contained in the first recording film as a primary component.